

A data reception/playback apparatus comprises transmission request sending means for sending a transmission request to a transmission apparatus, reception means for receiving data transmitted from the transmission apparatus in response to the transmission request, playback start position selection means for selecting a playback start position from a playback start position table where at least one playback start position is stored, and playback means for playing the stream data. In this apparatus, the transmission request sending means requests the transmission apparatus to transmit the playback start position table, the reception means receives the playback start position table, the transmission start position selection means selects a playback start position from the playback start position table, the transmission request sending means requests the transmission apparatus to transmit the stream data from the playback start position, the reception means receives the stream data, and the playback means plays the received stream data. Therefore, even when the data reception/playback apparatus receives the stream data from some midpoint in the stream, the apparatus can correctly play the stream data.